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July 7, 2008

For Immediate Release

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EYEWITNESS REPORTS ON IRAN, PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

LOCAL ACTIVISTS TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS ON RECENT VISITS TO
TROUBLED REGIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 4-6 P.M.

Three local activists will make presentations on their recent visits to Iran, Palestine and Israel at a July 26th benefit event for Between The Lines Radio Newsmagazine.

The event will feature Rev. Allie Perry, steering committee member of the group, Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice and Patty Nuelsen, development director of the New Haven/Leon, Nicaragua Sister City Project – who recently returned from a two-week trip to Iran where the pair was part of a 21-member Fellowship of Reconciliation U.S. civilian diplomacy delegation that met with ordinary Iranian citizens and religious leaders. Their discussions focused on the rising tensions between the two nations and how people-to-people contact can help avert conflict.

Also featured is Melinda Tuhus, a producer with Between The Lines Radio Newsmagazine and reporter with the New Haven Independent, who visited Palestinian towns in the West Bank and Israel. During her trip Tuhus spoke with Palestinians who have been forced off their land and Israeli peace activists who are working to end the occupation of Palestinian territories.

The Saturday, July 26th event will take place at the home of Rev. Perry in New Haven from 4 to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and include appetizers, cold refreshments, wine and beer. RSVP by July 20.

"I joined the Fellowship of Reconciliation delegation to Iran because I wanted to experience for myself this most ancient, venerable, and complex culture, without the distortions of the Bush administration's demonizing rhetoric," Perry said. "As so many Iranians we met said, 'The problems are with our governments not with the people of our two countries.' This trip fortified my commitment to citizen diplomacy as a path to peace."

"I went because I believe the Palestinian/Israeli conflict has played a defining role in political developments throughout the Middle East and beyond," said Tuhus. "I wanted to see for myself how Palestinians are forced to live under occupation, as well as meet some Israeli settlers and Israeli peace activists who are standing in solidarity with the Palestinians in a search for peace with justice. Americans need to know more about these efforts and not just accept the statements of the Israeli and U.S. governments as truth."

Net proceeds from the event will benefit Between The Lines Radio Newsmagazine, a nationally syndicated weekly program produced and distributed by the non-profit group Squeaky Wheel Productions. Between The Lines regularly provides news and analysis about national and international issues from perspectives not ordinarily covered by corporate media outlets. Between The Lines is broadcast on WPKN Radio 89.5 FM in Bridgeport, CT and 40 other stations in the U.S. and Canada.

For more information, to make reservations or to get directions call 1- (203) 268-8446 or visit www.squeakywheel.net or www.btlonline.org.